



From: Gunnison Chamber of Commerce
To: City Council and Staff
Subject: Visitor Center Funding
Date: September 22, 2015

Dear City Council and Staff;

Under the direction of the Gunnison Country Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee, I have been asked to send you a letter to offer our assistance in the formulation of the survey the City will be conducting of City Sales Tax License Holders and help with tabulation of results if needed. The Gunnison Chamber of Commerce and the City of Gunnison have been close partners for 90 years by virtue of our location and our common goal of business support and tourism attraction. We value that partnership and appreciate your willingness to help us find a solution to support the long term financial stability of the Visitor's Center.

We would like to clarify that not all of the information regarding funding of Visitor Centers that was presented at the Sept. 8 City Council meeting was wholly accurate. We realize that this information was received from community governments and we understand that they are not always fully aware of how their Visitor Centers operate. Alamosa for example does not receive any city funding for their visitor center as was correctly reported to you, however they are a State Welcome Center and receive the majority of their funding from the State of Colorado. Delta is another example of a Visitor Center that may not receive much in cash from the City, however they reside in a City owned building and all of their city utilities are paid for by the City of Delta. Federal Heights and Firestone neither one have a visitor center they both utilize the Westminster Chamber and Visitor Center. If you would like to more fully analyze examples of Visitor Center funding and look at other potential options for Gunnison's — items such as utilities, maintenance, etc. — we'd be happy to begin that conversation as well.

As always we appreciate your help and feedback on this matter. The board feels very strongly that this is an important and time sensitive issue concerning not just the Visitors Center but the Gunnison economy as a whole.

Thank you again for your time and effort.

Sincerely,

Ryan Johnson

Gunnison Country Chamber of Commerce, Board President